

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANAGU 00762 172209Z

21

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /046 W

----- 122568

R 172151Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9163

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 0762

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, NU

SUBJECT: P.J. CHAMORRO VISITS EMBASSY

REF: MANAGUA 0745

1. LA PRENSA PUBLISHER AND LEADING OPPOSITION FIGURE PEDRO JOAQUIN CHAMORRO VISITED THE EMBASSY CHANCERY FEBRUARY 13. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT CHAMORRO, THE STORMY PETREL OF NATIONAL POLITICS, HAD DONE SO SINCE 1970. CHAMORRO DISCUSSED MANAGUA RECONSTRUCTION WITH AID DIRECTOR, WAS GIVEN A TOUR OF USIS AND COMMERCIAL SECTION FACILITIES, LOOKED IN ON THE CONSULAR OPERATION AND CHATTED BRIEFLY WITH DCM, ECONOFF AND POLOFF (AMBASSADOR WAS OUT OF CITY).

2. CHAMORRO'S VISIT CAME ONLY A DAY AFTER HE HAD BEEN RE-LEASED FROM CUSTODY BECAUSE OF THE LIBEL TRIAL INITIATED BY CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES' PRESIDENT CORNELIO HUECK (REFTEL). THE JUXTAPOSITION OF THE TWO EVENTS WAS NOT LOST UPON ONE PSEUDO-LEFTIST RADIO COMMENTATOR WHO IMPLIED THAT CHAMORRO HAD SOUGHT POLITICAL PROTECTION AT THE EMBASSY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANAGU 00762 172209Z

3. COMMENT: CHAMORRO'S VISIT WAS A CALCULATED ACT WHICH

HE HAD BEEN CONSIDERING FOR SEVERAL WEEKS. IT REPRESENTED SOMETHING OF A SYMBOLIC WATERSHED IN HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE US, TACITLY CONFIRMING HIS JUDGMENT THAT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IS NO LONGER ALIGNED EXCLUSIVELY WITH THE REGIME, A PERCEPTION WHICH HE HAD ENTERTAINED FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS. SINCE CHAMORRO IS PROBABLY THE MOST INFLUENTIAL NON-SOMOCISTA OPINION LEADER, THE GESTURE REPRESENTS A NOT INCONSIDERABLE SUCCESS IN THE EMBASSY'S SIX-MONTH OLD EFFORT TO PROJECT A MORE EVEN-HANDED IMAGE. FOR CHAMORRO, HOWEVER, THE ACT MAY CREATE PROBLEMS WITH SOME OF HIS IDEOLOGICAL ANTI-AMERICAN ALLIES IN UDEL.

THEBERGE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARRESTS, OPPOSITION PARTIES, PARTY LEADERS, PRISONERS RELEASE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: blochd0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MANAGU00762
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760059-0915
From: MANAGUA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760244/aaaablzj.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MANAGUA 745
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: blochd0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUL 2004 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <25 OCT 2004 by blochd0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: P.J. CHAMORRO VISITS EMBASSY
TAGS: PINT, NU, (CHAMORRO, PEDRO JOAQUIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006